development of sites, adventure camps/ tented accommodation etc. on the basis of specific proposals received from them and dependent on their merits and availability of funds. Under these schemes, during 1991-92 the Department of Tourism sanctioned an amount of Rs. 39.24 lakhs to the ITDC Tourism Task Force for tourism infrastructural development. For the year 1992-93 onwards, no amount has yet been allocated to the ITDC's Tourism Task Force.

Amount Spent on Subsidy to the Buyers of Solar Cookers

*115. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) what is the amount spent by Government on subsidy to the buyers of solar cookers for the year 1990-91 ;

(b) whether Government have studied the correlation between the extent of subsidy and the sales of the solar cookers ;

(c) what further steps Government are contemplating to popularize the use of solar energy equipment ; and

(d) whether there is any plan to make compulsory for the Government Departments to buy solar energy equipments in order to save power consumption ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Rs. 26.08 lakhs have been spent by the Government of India as subsidy to the buyers of Solar Cookers for the year 1990-91.

(b) Sale of the Solar Cookers in the states is dependent on a number of factors like local manufacturing capacity, the extent of promotional efforts by state agencies, availability of adequate number of sales outlets. There is no direct correlation between the extent of subsidy and the number of cookers sold, amongst the various states, in comparison.

(c) The Government have taken steps recently to standardise the technical parameters of Solar Cookers and Solar Water Heating Equipments and in consultation with the Bureau of Indian Standards, have recently introduced standards for Solar Cookers and Solar Water Heaters, with ISI marking. This will ensure certified, quality products available in the market. In addition, steps are also being taken to give suitable publicity through media. Already facilities are available for manufacturers of solar equipments to get loans at concessional rates of interest from the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA).

(d) The Government is examining the manner in which the Government buildings could instal suitable solar equipments for water heating purposes. It has not been made compulsory for the Government Departments to buy solar energy equipments.

Commissioning of Ujani Thermal Power Station Stage-I in Maharashtra

*116. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present stage of Ujani Thermal Power Station Stage-I of Maharashtra ;

(b) whether the coal linkages for this project have been agreed upon ; if so, from which year ; and

(c) what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (c) The scheme for installation of Ujani Thermal Power Station Stage-I (2×500 MW) submitted by the Maharashtra State Electricity Board has been examined in the Central Electricity Authority. The scheme has been dropped as coal availability for the proposed scheme from Singareni Collieries, which was the rational source of coal supply, could not be tied up. The Central Electricity Authority have advised the Maharashtra State Electricity Board accordingly.